REMARKS

Claims 13-66 were pending in the present application, of which claims 31-37, 40, 45, 50, 63 and 66 are restricted from consideration pursuant to an election. With this amendment, the applicants have added the claims 67-72. Therefore, claims 13-30, 38, 39, 41-44, 46-49, 51-62, 64, 65 and 67-72 are at issue. With the Office Action of October 1, 2004, the Examiner has rejected claims 13-30 and 55-59 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by the Bauer et al. article entitled "A Collaborative Wearable System with Remote Sensing" (hereinafter referred to as "Bauer"). The applicants traverse such rejections and respectfully request reconsideration. This amendment is timely filed as it is accompanied by a petition for a two-month extension of time and the fee therefore extending the response date to March 1, 2005.

Claims 13 and 24 and their dependent claims are allowable over the cited art

Claims 13 and 24 recite a wearable computer for use in a process control environment or a device identification unit for use on a wearable computer including an image processor adapted to process an image signal for identifying a process control device based on a device feature. The wearable computer systems recited by claims 13 and 24 are adapted to provide process information generated by one or more process control devices within the process control environment. Furthermore, the image processor recited in the claims 13 and 24 allows a user of the wearable computer to identify any of the, for example, thousands of devices within the process control environment based on a device feature, such as the shape of the device, a bar code attached to the device, etc.

While Bauer discloses a computer system used by computer technicians in maintaining a campus wide communication network, Bauer does not disclose or suggest a system having an image processor to process an image signal to identify a device based on a device feature. Even though Bauer discloses an electronic sensor for identifying electronic equipment tags, such a sensor is not adapted to process an image signal to identify a device based on a device feature, in a manner recited in claims 13 and 24. In fact, to identify a device, a user of the sensor disclosed in Bauer has to touch the electronic equipment tag attached to the device with the electronic sensor, which makes it difficult for use in a process control environment because a process control environment may include a number of devices that may be located in inaccessible locations.

Furthermore, unlike the wearable computer systems recited in claims 13 and 24, which are adapted to provide process information generated by one or more process control devices within the process control environment, the computer system disclosed in Bauer is designed to work in a campus wide computer network environment and it does not provide any capability to provide any process information generated by process control devices. For example, while the Bauer computer system includes a sensor device that plugs into a computer network and allows a user to analyze network packets, the Bauer computer system does not provide any capability to provide any process control information generated by a process control device.

For the reasons discussed above, claims 13 and 24 and the claims depending therefrom are not anticipated by Bauer. Furthermore, Bauer does not provide any suggestion or motivation for providing a capability to process an image signal for identifying a process control device based on a device feature or a capability to provide process information generated by the process control device, as provided in claims 13 and 24. Therefore, claims 13 and 24 and the claims depending therefrom are not rendered obvious by Bauer.

Claims 55, 67 and 70 and claims dependent therefrom are allowable over the cited art

Claims 55, 67 and 70 recite an image viewing system for use in a process control system including a first software routine capable of receiving an image, enabling a user to make changes to the image, such as to highlight or mark an area of the image, and sending the image with the changes to one of a wearable computer and an operator workstation. The image viewing system recited in claims 55, 66 and 70 also includes a second software routine capable of receiving an image, enabling a user to make changes to the image, such as to highlight or mark an area of the image, sending the image with the changes to one of a wearable computer and an operator workstation, and displaying the image on one of the image viewing system and the operator workstation. Together, these software routines allow a user of the image viewing system to communicate back-and-forth between an operator of a process control system and an operator of a wearable computer using images of, for example, various devices within the process control system. Moreover, these software routines allows the user and the operator to make graphical changes to the images, such as for example, marking up an area, writing text instructions on the image, etc. This feature makes it easier for a user to work interactively with the operator using images.

Bauer does not disclose or suggest a system that is capable of receiving an image, enabling a user to make changes to the image, such as to highlight or mark an area of the image, and sending the image with the changes to one of a wearable computer and an operator workstation. While Bauer discloses a shared window map application to indicate where a network device or a network outlet may be located, the map application does not allow marking up of or making changes to images shared between two users. As a matter of fact, even to highlight a part of the shared image, a user of the Bauer system has to scan a tag disposed within a network environment using an electronic sensor. In a process environment, where a number of devices located in inaccessible locations it may not be possible to reach such devices and scanning the tags attached to such inaccessible devices may be extremely cumbersome, if not impossible. Therefore, claims 55, 67 and 70 and the claims depending therefrom are not anticipated by Bauer.

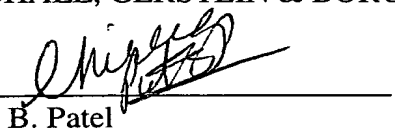
Moreover, because the system disclosed in Bauer does not provide any means for making a change to an image used by the map application, it cannot suggest allowing someone to make graphical changes to such an image, such as to highlight or mark-up an area of the captured image, in a manner recited by the claims 55, 67 and 70. Therefore, claims 55, 67 and 70 and the claims depending therefrom are not rendered obvious by Bauer.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above application is in condition for allowance. If there is any matter that the examiner would like to discuss, he is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

February 25, 2005

By: 

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